Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
1/4/77

Mr. Jerry Cohen
Newsroom
Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Ca.

Dear Jerry,

The WxPost of 1/2/78 carried your syndicate's story by John Kendall on the ousting of the CIA San Diego agent Donald S. Jordan.

Some of the quotes are relevant in a Freedom of Information case I now have an appeal. The judge accepted the untested, unquestionable false representations of the CIA in that case as in so many other cases.

I have made out rather well on FOIA appeals. One contributed to the 1974 amending of the Act.

And I now regard what I have been able to do in strengthening the Act and in laying a basis for deterring further official negating of it as the first priority in my work.

I would like to be able to ask Jordan if he would consider providing an affidavit for use in court. I write to ask if you'd be kind enough to get and give me his address.

Your people, unlike the Post and NYTimes, have not used me as a source on either assassination or FOIA matters. If they have any concerns about the current FBI releases please tell them to feel free to phone. And if they want an evaluation of whether or not I can help them I'm sure George Lardner of the Post will provide it. There are real problems for even the most diligent reporters when they are confronted with pressing deadlines and 40,000 pages. Most of what the press went for last month was neither new nor truthful.

On the latter opinion you might be interested in asking the FBI for its records relating to you and your paper when you tried to help it in the King case. I have learned something about this. Quick paraphrase: enemies not friends of the DBI, the bottom line always with the press. Your source was not for real but what rational person can believe it was other than correct if not necessary to report such information when the cities were aflame?

I have some of this and in time will be glad to provide it. Perhaps this requires some explanation.

First, credentials since we were last in touch. The Department of Justice has told two different federal judges that I know more about the JFK and King assassinations and their official investigations than anyone in the FBI. As a result I am now saddled with an incredible responsibility: I'm the Department's hired consultant in its defense of a suit I have against it. If this is quite wrong under FOIA as a practical matter there is nothing I can do about it except carry a separate appeal forward. This would further the government's aim, to withhold all it can for as long as it can. And I suspect delay my writing based on what I have obtained. As one result I have no spare time. I must spend all the time I can find working for my in-court opponent.

I am further limited by circulatory problems that were first diagnosed in 10/75. These are in both arteries and veins. One consequence is difficulty in filing and in retrieving what I have filed, depending on the location of the files. When I came accross what I thought would interest you if not your paper I did make extra copies of some, intending to send them when I had all I could hope for. And when I was able to force the supplying of what was withheld from those records. Unfortunately the only file space I had was what I'd already emptied because of its inconvenience, bottom drawers.

It may also interest you to know that there was an investigation of your Raul Esquivel lead, the one I used in Frame-Up. It is more of a non-investigation. There is still withholding on this.

The FOIA suit in which a Jordan affidavit might be helpful is for those executive sessions of the Warren Commission that are still withheld. I've forced the yielding of all but two full transcripts and parts of two others. As I've obtained them I've given them to the press prior to my own use. I've printed the last two in facsimile, they are of that nature and content. If I prevail in this litigation I'll again give these away so they can be available as widely as possible.

I'm nearing 65 and my medical condition is not conducive to longevity. I also do not lack writing materials.

Two of these transcripts deal with defectors. One deals with Nosenko, a KGB type.

Jordan again: those the CIA is separating seem to be extraordinarily bitter. He was in the domestic end. The full nature of the CIA illicit domestic activities has not even been indicated in the papers. You'd have quite a story if you could turn him on and if he was privy to the nastier activities, especially the anti-First Amendment ones.

Thanks for anything you can do and

best wishes,

Harold Weisberg